



## Course Syllabus

**Soldiers and Stuff: an Introduction to Military Terminology, Weapons Systems Classification, and other Key Aspects of Warfare**

Soldater och sådant: en introduktion till militär terminologi, klassificering av vapensystem och andra nyckelaspekter av krigföring

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<b>Course Code</b>	1KR002	<b>Main Field of Study</b>	War Studies
<b>Valid from Semester</b>	Autumn 2024	<b>Department</b>	Department of War Studies
<b>Education Cycle</b>	Basic level	<b>Subject</b>	War Studies
<b>Scope</b>	2.0	<b>Language of Instruction</b>	The teaching is conducted in English.
<b>Progression</b>	G1N	<b>Decided by</b>	The Research and Education Board's Course Syllabus Committee at the Swedish Defence University
<b>Grading Scale</b>	Fail, Pass	<b>Decision date</b>	2024-02-06
<b>Revision</b>	1.0		

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**Entry Requirements**

General entry requirements as well as English B or English 6.

**Course Content and Structure**

The course aims to provide opportunities for the student to develop a basic understanding of (1) the structures of military organizations, (2) the functions and effects of weapons systems in modern warfare, and (3) key aspects and regulations within the laws of war. Central to the course is the acquisition of empirical knowledge about these aspects of warfare.

The course opens up opportunities to understand how military organizations are structured in terms of hierarchical systems, units, and branches of the armed forces. It also provides a basic understanding of the weapons systems and non-kinetic means of warfare that exist in modern military organizations. The course also instructs in how they are used in combat, and what effects they have, and additionally, what relevant laws apply. Through lectures, exercises, and self-study, the student builds empirical knowledge in these three areas. The lectures are conducted by experts in their respective fields and the student's knowledge is examined through a take-home exam.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:

***Knowledge and understanding***

- explain how modern states organize their military capability
- explain how modern weapons systems are utilized and their effects
- explain how non-kinetic means of warfare are used and their effects
- explain how basic principles of the laws of war are applied

***Skills and abilities***

- classify various types of units, command ranks, and branches of the military
- classify various types of weapon systems' functions and effects
- classify various types of non-kinetic means used in warfare and their effects
- classify the principles of the laws of war applicable at different instances of the use of force in war.

**Type of Instruction**

Lectures

Exercises

## Independent Literature Studies

### **Assessment**

#### **Take-home examination**

Scope: 2.0

Grading Scale: Fail, Pass

The course is examined through a take-home examination.

The examining teacher can decide on supplementary tasks in order for the student to achieve a passing grade (G). The student must complete any supplementary tasks within three days of its announcement, except under circumstances that the examining teacher has sanctioned beforehand. Late submissions are not accepted, except under certain medical or other compassionate circumstances that the examining teacher has sanctioned beforehand.

### **Grading**

Grades are determined according to a two-level scale: Fail (U) and Pass (G).

To earn a passing grade (G), the student must earn a passing grade on the take-home examination.

Grading criteria are reported at the latest at the start of the course.

### **Restrictions in Number of Examinations**

There is no limit on the total number of examination opportunities.

### **Restrictions Concerning Degree**

The course cannot be included in a degree with another course whose content fully or partially corresponds to the content of this course.

### **Transitional Provisions**

When the course is no longer offered or when the course content has changed substantially, the student has the right to be examined once per semester during a three-term period in accordance with this syllabus.

### **Miscellaneous**

If the Swedish Defence University has formally decided that the student is entitled to receive special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may decide on alternative forms of examination for the student. The course director will conduct an evaluation on the completion of the course, which will form the basis for any changes to the course.

## Reading List

**Soldiers and Stuff: an Introduction to Military Terminology, Weapons Systems Classification, and other Key Aspects of Warfare**

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<b>Course Code</b>	1KR002
<b>Revision</b>	1.0
<b>Reading List Valid from Date</b>	--
<b>Reading List Decided Date</b>	--

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Literature list (total of 200 pages)

Gersbeck, Tom. 2014. Practical Military Ordnance Identification. Practical Aspects of Criminal and Forensic Investigation Series. Boca Raton, FL, United States: CRC P.

GICHD. 2017. 'Explosive Weapons Effects - Final Report'. Geneva, Switzerland: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining.

GlobalSecurity. 2015. 'Aircraft and Ship Identification'. In , 13-1-13-27.  
[https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/policy/navy/nrtc/14243\\_ch13.pdf](https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/policy/navy/nrtc/14243_ch13.pdf).

Hurley, W J, C R Bucher, S K Numrich, S M Ouellette, and J B Resnick. 2009. 'Non-Kinetic Capabilities for Irregular Warfare: Four Case Studies'. IDA Paper P-4436. Alexandria, VA, United States: Institute for Defense Analyses.

Jenzen-Jones, N. R., Matt Schroeder, Jonathan Ferguson, Nicolas Florquin, and Anthony G. Williams. 2018. 'An Introductory Guide to the Identification of Small Arms, Light Weapons, and Associated Ammunition'. Geneva, Switzerland: Small Arms Survey, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies.

Kort, Michael. 2010. Weapons of Mass Destruction. Annotated edition. Facts on File.

Melzer, Nils. 2020. International Humanitarian Law: A Comprehensive Introduction. Geneva, Switzerland: International Committee of the Red Cross.

UN. 2010. 'Theatre Weapons, Vehicles and Equipment Recognition'. In Specialized Training Material for Military Experts on Mission, 1-25. New York, NY, United States: Department of Peacekeeping Operations & Department of Field Support.

———. 2018. Civil-Military Coordination (CMCoord) Field Handbook. 2.0. Geneva, Switzerland: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. <https://www.unocha.org/publication/un-cmcoord-field-handbook>.

Wille, Christina, and Alfredo Malaret Baldo. 2020. 'Reference Framework: Menu of Indicators to Measure the Reverberating Effects on Civilians from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas'. Geneva, Switzerland: United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research.